WO 2004/011717 PCT/EP2003/008166

- 14 -

CLAIMS

A method of deinking printed paper, the method comprising pulping the paper to form an aqueous slurry, adding a deinking
additive to the paper, and removing detached ink by flotation, wherein the additive comprises an organo-modified siloxane comprising units of the formula:

$[R^1_aZ_bSiO_{(4-a-b)/2}]_n$

10

in which each R¹ is independently selected from a hydrogen atom, an alkyl, aryl, alkenyl, aralkyl, alkaryl, alkoxy, alkanoyloxy, hydroxyl, ester or ether group;

each Z is independently selected from an alkyl group 15 substituted with an amine, amide, carboxyl, ester, or epoxy group, or a group $-R^2-(OC_pH_{2p})_g(OC_rH_{2r})_s-R^3$;

n is an integer greater than 1;

a and b are independently 0, 1, 2 or 3;

R² is an alkylene group or a direct bond;

20 R^3 is a group as defined for R^1 or Z above;

p and r are independently an integer from 1 to 6;

q and s are independently 0 or an integer such that $1 \le q + s \ge 400$;

and wherein each molecule of the organo-modified siloxane 25 contains at least one group Z.

- 2. A method according to claim 1 wherein Z is a group $-R^2-(OC_pH_{2p})_q(OC_rH_{2r})_s-R^3$.
- 30 3. A method according to claim 2 wherein p and/or r are independently 2, 3 or 4.
 - 4. A method according to claim 2 or 3 wherein q and s are

WO 2004/011717

each independently integers from 10 to 30.

5. A method according to claim 4 wherein q and s are each independently 15 to 25.

5

- 6. A method according to any one of claims 2 to 5 wherein p is 2, r is 3, and q and s are both 18.
- 7. A method according to any preceding claim wherein R^2 is 10 a methylene, ethylene, propylene, butylene, pentylene or hexylene group.
 - 8. A method according to any preceding claim wherein \mathbb{R}^3 is a hydrogen atom or a hydroxyl group.

15

- 9. A method according to any preceding claim wherein the siloxane is linear.
- 10. A method according to any preceding claim wherein the 20 siloxane contains branching.
 - 11. A method according to any preceding claim wherein Z is a group $-R^2-(OC_pH_{2p})_q(OC_rH_{2r})_s-R^3$, and R^3 is a hydroxyl or alkanoyloxy group.

25

- 12. A method according to any preceding claim wherein 2 to 20 mole percent of silicon atoms in the siloxane molecule are substituted by a group Z.
- 30 13. A method according to claim 12 wherein 5 to 16 mole percent of silicon atoms in the siloxane molecule are substituted by a group Z.

WO 2004/011717 PCT/EP2003/008166

- 14. A method according to any preceding claim wherein the siloxane has a hydrophilic/lipophilic balance (HLB)in the range of 5.0 to 7.3.
- 5 15. A method according to any preceding claim wherein the siloxane has a molecular weight in the range of 1,000 to 500,000.
- 16. A method according to claim 15 wherein the siloxane has 10 a molecular weight in the range of 10,000 to 100,000.
 - 17. A method according to any preceding claim wherein the siloxane is a hydroxy-endcapped linear polydimethylsiloxane having an HLB of 5.9 to 6.3, in which 10 to 12 mole percent
- 15 of silicon atoms are substituted by Z groups of the formula $-R^2-(OC_pH_{2p})_q(OC_rH_{2r})_s-R^3$, in which p is 2, r is 3 and q and s are both 18, R^2 is an alkylene group having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a direct bond, and R^3 is a hydrogen atom or a hydroxyl, ester or ether group.

20

18. A method according to any preceding claim wherein the additive further comprises one or more components selected from a polydimethylsiloxane, an organic polyether, and a fatty acid.

25

- 19. A method according to claim 18 wherein the additive further comprises an organic polyether of the formula $R^4-(OC_pH_{2p})_q(OC_rH_{2r})_s-R^5$ in which R^4 and R^5 are selected from a hydrogen atom, hydroxyl, alkyl and alkoxy groups, p and r are independently an integer from 1 to 6, and q and s are independently 0 or an integer such that $1 \le q + s \ge 400$.
 - 20. A method according to claim 18 or 19 wherein the additive

WO 2004/011717 PCT/EP2003/008166

- 17 -

further comprises a fatty acid which is a saturated or unsaturated monobasic aliphatic carboxylic acid.

- 21. A method according to claim 20 wherein the carboxylic 5 acid is selected from lauric, myristic, palmitic, stearic, arachidic, behenic, lignoceric, palmitolic, oleic, linoleic, linolenic, and arachidonic acids.
- 22. A method according to any preceding claim wherein the 10 additive is an emulsion.
 - 23. A method according to claim 22 wherein the additive is a gum based self-emulsifying siloxane.
- 15 24. A method according to any preceding claim wherein the additive is added to the paper in an amount within the range 0.1 to 1 wt% of the paper.
- 25. A method according to claim 24 wherein the additive is 20 added to the paper in an amount within the range 0.1 to 0.5 wt% of the paper.
 - 26. A method according to any preceding claim which is performed at substantially neutral pH.

25

27. A method substantially as hereinbefore described.